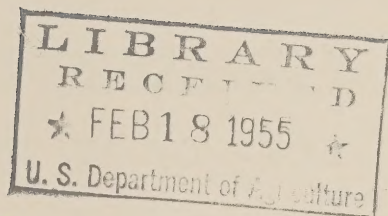


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Russell Gardens

23 MILES NORTH OF HOUSTON ON U.S. 75

SPRING • TEXAS

1955

AMERICA'S LARGEST GROWER OF DAYLILIES
ENTIRELY NEW DAYLILIES IN NEW COLORS, FORMS AND SIZES
PROVEN HARDY FROM MAINE TO CALIFORNIA

A Personal Note . . .

TO MY FRIENDS AND CUSTOMERS

In this, my 1955 catalog, I especially want to thank my many friends and customers for their overwhelming confidence in us. I want to thank you for making 1954 the best year of our existence. I also want to thank so many of you for inquiring about my health since "finis" was almost written for me several years ago. My health is better now than it has been for many years, and with the help of my son, Jake, and my brother's son, L. M., both of whom have spent

many years in this business, we have increased our plantings as well as our entire organization. Yes, I have much to be thankful for now. I want to cut this introduction short, because I want you to read the following article, which I think will be extremely interesting and certainly important to those who take their gardening seriously. Again let me say thanks to you, and I hope 1955 will find each of you with a more beautiful garden than ever.

Respectfully yours, H. M. RUSSELL

CONCERNING "EVERGREEN" AND "DORMANT" DAYLILIES AND THEIR "REGIONAL" BEHAVIOR

Ours Are Hardy All Over America—Here's Why

Much has been said about the regional behavior of Daylilies—some right and some wrong. I wish to state, at the risk of sounding a bit "too much of an authority," that I believe I have as much right to express myself on their regional behavior as anyone in America, having moved ten thousand Daylilies to Indiana in 1940 from Texas for test purposes and sixty thousand Daylilies here from Wisconsin in 1948. Frankly, I don't think out of the whole lot I lost ten plants, and solely because both types had been bred into them for years. Then too, the many letters from the tens of thousands to whom we have sent plants all over America attest to complete satisfaction. They have survived droughts that broke records, heat waves that broke records, freezes that broke records, both coming and going, and they survived.

Now, of course, some varieties did much better in multiplication and heavy growth than other varieties, but this was because of their bred-up background rather than the climate. Even some varieties of the wild species, as we all know, from which all modern hybrids were developed, multiply faster than others. My main purpose in writing this is to straighten out one of the biggest misconceptions that ever was expressed: "Which variety does best in our section—EVERGREEN or DORMANT?" Much has been written, and some by misinformed persons, to the effect that dormant varieties are best for the North and evergreen best for the South. Even if this were so, where do we draw the line? We've got mid-south, mid-north, etc.—should they have to do without Daylilies? They will both do just as well in either section, PROVIDED both types have been bred into the plants, and it has taken many, many years to do this.

There is quite an interesting article in one of the latest books on *Hemerocallis* concerning this

very subject, and I agree with the author wholeheartedly. After a Daylily has been bred for many years and has so many crosses of both types, evergreen and dormant, bred into it, you would be baffled when you looked at a variety if you didn't know its background. Some so-called dormant varieties have more evergreen blood in them than dormant, and some so-called evergreen varieties have more dormant blood in them than evergreen. This is what I call recessive genes, varieties whose predominant ancestry doesn't always show on the surface. In hybridizing Daylilies I wouldn't think of using any of my varieties unless I knew something about its background, because now after we have grown complex hybrids for over twenty years we have learned something about recessive genes. For instance, if I were going to work with certain red varieties, it might bewilder you in some cases to see me using a lot of lemon and golds on one side to get better and deeper reds, when I might have used both red parents to start with; but that was because I knew there was more red blood in that particular yellow variety than in some red varieties, and it happened to have a particular character that I wanted to incorporate in that certain hybrid. Another case of recessive genes.

I have read much lately by different hybridizers, many of whom were new in this work, who said "I'm working to get this" and "I'm working to get that" when really many of them didn't know the background of the very plants they were working with. If they had they could have saved themselves many years of work, and theirs, too, might have been hardy all over America. I, myself, am working on many different blood lines, all with both types bred into them, so that we may know that they will be satisfactory all over America. Note the testimonials throughout this catalog. Then, too, before we judge an individual bloom we certainly

want to know that the bloom stem would have as many as fifteen buds or more on it instead of the four or five on older varieties, and in further evaluating a variety we would want to know that an established clump would produce many more bloom stems than the old varieties and that its foliage was pleasing. Also, we'd like to know that that particular variety would stay open in the evening and not fold up just because the sun pounded on it half the day. When one says, "This variety does better in partial shade"—that's not a compliment to that Daylily, but rather a subtle way of saying, "This variety just can't take the sun." We don't want those at all; ours must grow in both full sun and part shade.

Now, as many of you know, there are only about twenty species (varieties growing wild), all found in Asia. Some of those varieties were evergreen and some dormant to begin with—the evergreen were found in warmer sections of Asia, the dormant in colder sections. Perhaps that is why some breeders believe now that you have to select certain varieties for your climate. Competent plant breeders wouldn't let it go at just that. They would surely work both types into their hybrids if they wanted to call them satisfactory all over America, else one distinct type wouldn't do at all in sections where they don't get "quite" enough cold and others where they barely get too much. I can honestly say that the only difference in *any* of our varieties growing in *any* section is that some varieties simply multiply faster than others, and that's surely not because they are "Evergreen" or "Dormant" but simply because some of the species from which they were bred grow faster than others. There's surely *nothing* any plant breeder will or can ever do about that, but in many cases the slower growers are far more beautiful than those that grow fast, and vice versa.

After all, when you pay the price for a Daylily, you don't want to experiment. (In fairness to you gardeners, that's for the plant breeder to do.) You want to *know* that those you order are satisfactory, regardless of where you live. I hope I'm not misleading you, for there certainly are many varieties developed by some hybridizers that are not satisfactory in all sections of the country. But that, in my opinion, is because some plant breeders do not make the effort to use the blood of both types to begin with, making them complex enough to stand all sections. We have done that, and that's why you'll find more Russell varieties in the past polls of the Hemerocallis Society than of any other grower in America. That's why our variety stood at the *top* of the poll for three solid years—longer than any other variety on earth. That's why we won the Stout Medal, the highest honor that can be paid a breeder of Daylilies. That variety had to be hardy and satisfactory all over America, else all America would not have had the chance to see it, let alone be able to grow it and vote on it in the polls. It surely was no accident with us. Ours are bred for *all* America.

Now, in summing this all up, let's just ask ourselves this one question: "Why is the dormant variety Black Prince, which was originated by us,

known to be satisfactory from Maine to California and why is it on the list of the one hundred best in America?" Jewell Russell, which is absolutely evergreen here, is also extremely satisfactory over the entire United States—Florida, California and as far north as Canada. This is simply because all the varieties we offer have had many varieties, both dormant and evergreen, incorporated in their background for many generations. I know some growers, in different sections of our country, who have stressed "evergreen" too much or "dormant" too much, and have not made much attempt to use both types of blood. I don't believe those growers are being quite fair when they offer their lists to all America. We have moving pictures of our fields here in Texas in the dead of winter showing thirty acres, of which about one half are "evergreen" and one half "dormant." I think before we plant breeders stress the quality of our wares too much, we owe it to our clients to emphasize hardiness as well as beauty in our plants. And I believe the only way we will test their hardiness is to send out thousands and thousands of plants, as we have done for more than twenty years, to the four corners of the earth and find out for ourselves. Finally, I wish to say that this is written solely for the benefit of the gardening public all over the world, that you may learn more about the hardiness of our plants in all sections and "Which type shall I plant?" It was certainly not written as any reflection on other authors or growers, but I must say that I challenge any grower in America in backing up these statements.

In conclusion, let me say that in selecting varieties from our fields for our display gardens, it has been absolutely no concern to us whatever, whether those particular varieties (since ours are all complex hybrids) are evergreen or dormant. They are selected solely for beauty and general garden value. Some evergreen are more beautiful than dormant in their particular color class—and we want them. Some dormant are more beautiful in their particular color class—and we also want them. It must also be remembered that even our varieties marked evergreen in our catalog become dormant for a few months of the year in the extreme North, but they are positively proven hardy all over America.

Dear Mr. Russell:

I thought you would be interested in knowing the daylilies that were planted in northern Michigan came through the winter perfectly, in spite of 28° below zero. The plants arrived in perfect condition and are thriving in extremely poor soil. It looks like Russell daylilies will grow beautifully anywhere.

Sincerely,

LOU R. MAXON
Maxon, Inc.
2761 Jefferson Ave.
Detroit 7, Mich.

We sold Mr. Maxon over 10,000 plants during the past few years for his private estate.

Now Everybody Can Afford These Lovely New Jewels

While we are growing thirty solid acres of Day-lilies, it must be understood that not all of them are good varieties, in fact, a great part of our entire fields we consider strictly trash—just as you will find in any breeder's field. We plowed under many thousand hybrids this season as not worthy garden subjects. We grow thousands of our own under number, as well as hundreds of varieties from other breeders for comparison. Only when a plant has proved its worth do we ever introduce it.

Daylilies will give you more in return for less care than any flower you could possibly grow, and at the same time increase in beauty from year to year. When you consider the thousands of plants we destroy in order to select one good variety that will live on and on, the price we ask is, after all, very small. We are happy to be the first large grower in America to give you these modest prices, but then we are here where we get ten months' growing season and enough severe freezes to burst unprotected water pipes and kill out all tender vegetation and at the same time harden up the Daylilies. We can naturally produce them faster, we believe, than anywhere on earth.

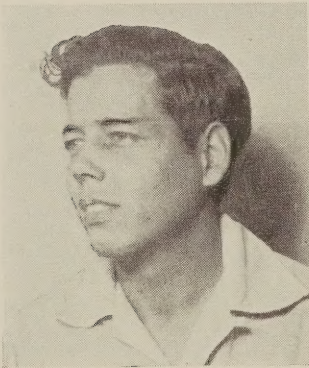
When you have finished using this catalog, won't you pass it along to a friend, or better still—have him or her order one.



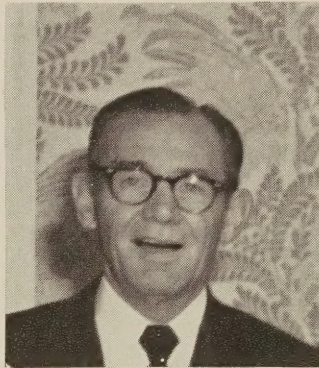
MRS. H. M. RUSSELL

I want to present again a photograph of the real power behind RUSSELL GARDENS, for I am sure, without her inspiration, there just wouldn't have been my contribution to the Daylily world.

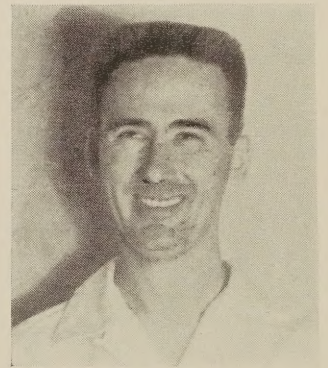
*We are the only nursery in the world that could furnish as many as
5,000 to 10,000 each of 75 or 100 top varieties.*



J. M. RUSSELL



H. M. RUSSELL



L. M. RUSSELL

I am presenting this year, for the first time, a photograph of L. M. — Jake has appeared before in many of my catalogs. While L. M. is not my son, but my oldest brother's, you'd never know it here. He has been with us for many years and is about as important around here as any of the rest of us. He is the one you want to contact, if possible, when you visit our nursery, for Daylily information; you will get it from him with the least "static." He always has taken things calmly, even while flying 77 missions in a Thunderbolt fighter plane all over Europe. He and Jake, with their crew, can get out more orders in less time than I have ever heard of any others doing.

The volume of our business has changed the rating of the post office here in our little village from fourth class to second class—and all because of your orders. Thanks again for your confidence.

Just What Are Daylilies?

WHERE, HOW AND WHEN SHOULD WE PLANT DAYLILIES

Daylilies are not bulbs. They are herbaceous perennials that should be planted from a single, well-formed, vigorous root. The first season should produce one to three bloom stems with from five to twenty flowers on each stem; if left undisturbed, the clump will increase in size and give many more bloom stems with more and larger blooms to the stem, every year thereafter. After six or seven years the clumps may be taken up and divided, and if some soil is left on the roots the clump can be halved or quartered. If it is not possible to leave enough soil on the roots, then it is better to plant individual divisions with one, two or three crowns.

There are varieties that grow 12 inches tall and others 2, 3 and even 4 feet or more high; some have blooms not much larger than a half dollar, and others are larger than a salad plate. Then you must, of course, understand that different varieties bloom at different seasons of the year. Each variety blooms from four to six weeks after becoming established, and by careful planning one can have profuse flowers in the garden from four to six months of the year.

We never introduce a new variety here at our nursery until it has produced as many as 300 bloom buds in its third season and every year thereafter and is thoroughly tested for every desirable characteristic. Imagine, if you can, an array of these gorgeous flowers in your garden—every clump producing an abundance of blooms in colors selected by yourself. No disease has ever been known to touch a Daylily. We have never spent 5c for insecticide in our nurseries.

Daylilies will grow in the hottest sun or partial shade. I do not recommend them in locations where they don't get at least half sun. Our va-

rieties have proved hardy from Maine to California and they have never been equaled for dependability by any other garden subject.

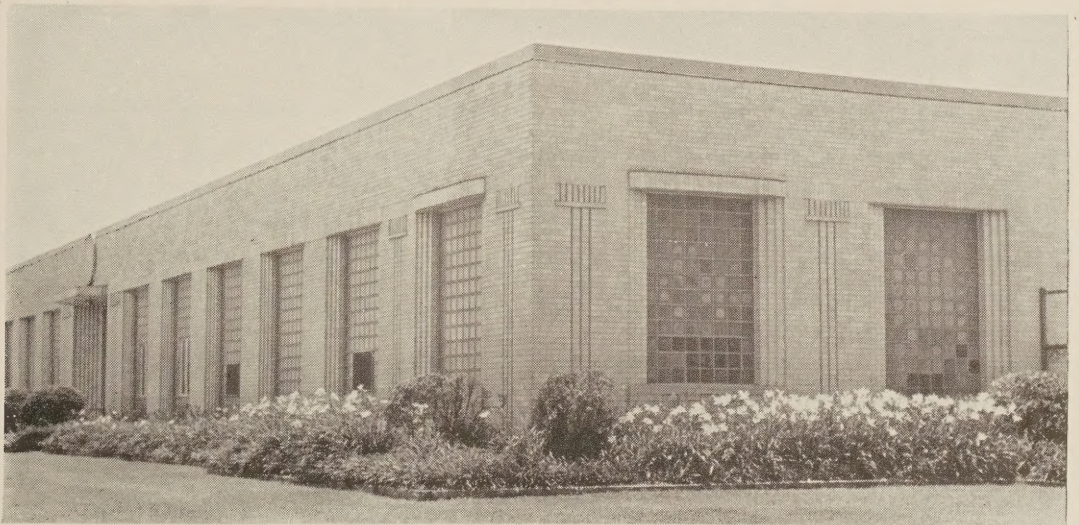
In planting Daylilies simply spread out the roots, cover them with only 1 inch or so of soil, and water. I like to plant Daylilies from 13 inches to 3 feet apart, depending on the variety. When your plants arrive not all of the roots will be the same size; that depends altogether on the variety. Some varieties with the largest bloom have smaller plants, while some small blooms have huge, robust plants.

In all my experience I believe that any time is the best time to plant Daylilies, provided you get them in the ground a month or six weeks before your severest freezes. Even if the temperature is 15 or 20 degrees below zero, it will not injure the Daylilies. They are perfectly hardy—they can really take it. The flowering time mentioned in this catalog for each variety is for Texas; it will be about a month to six weeks later in extremely cold climates.

I have seen clumps of Daylilies growing undisturbed in the same location and blooming most profusely from fifteen to twenty years. Remember, our plants are tested and proved hardy and you shouldn't lose one plant out of a thousand because of your weather conditions.

I believe Texas-grown Daylilies are better because of the husky, vigorous root growth they have when they are shipped from our nursery. You may order when you like and we will hold your plants until you wish them delivered. Order early to avoid the disappointment of some varieties being sold out.

RUSSELL GARDENS, Spring, Texas



**SHELL OIL COMPANY'S LABORATORY, HOUSTON, TEXAS
PLANTING OF RUSSELL DAYLILIES**

No finer plant material could be found for public and commercial buildings, manufacturing plants, etc., as well as private gardens.

RUSSELL GARDENS, SPRING, TEXAS



OUR HOME

The picture at the right was made at night about 20 years ago to show the old varieties of Daylilies that close at night and those I developed that remain open. This was the beginning of the hybrids that keep open in the evening and are therefore useful as cut flowers—and this is why the Russell varieties top them all for their keeping qualities. All prices listed here void all previous lists.



Please Note—IMPORTANT

The size of the illustrations in this catalog is no indication of the actual size of the bloom. Some varieties shown here in a small illustration are actually much larger than some of the large photographs. The description of each variety will tell you the size of the bloom.

We reserve the right to reject any orders or parts thereof, depending upon the condition of our stock and whether it has been sold out at the time of ordering. In such a case your money will be refunded. We acknowledge all orders promptly.

A Note from a Friend

Dear Sirs:

June 22, 1954

We have bought our daylilies from your gardens for the last three years, and I just had to write and tell you that we have the most beautiful ones of anyone around here.

Very truly,

MRS. J. RUSSELL WOOD
Wrightsville Beach, N. C.

Adv. Manager "*The North Carolina Gardener*"

• VISITORS WELCOME •

Garden Clubs—come in a body, bring your lunch and spend the day.

WE PAY TRANSPORTATION ON ALL ORDERS AMOUNTING TO \$3.00 OR MORE; OTHERWISE ADD 50c FOR POSTAGE AND PACKING.



OUR OFFICE

This is the Plant That Daylilies Built—30 Solid Acres

*We Ship Only
Vigorous
Heavy-Size
Plants*

WHAT WE
DO WANT
IN
DAYLILIES



Note the wide full petals and graceful forms of these magnificent new jewels

WE GROW NOTHING BUT DAYLILIES

WHAT WE DON'T WANT IN DAYLILIES



Here we are attempting to show you actual photographs of Daylilies we consider worthy, and also a photograph of a useless variety. Notice it at the left—how it folds up here under our Texas sun. You will not find any like this in your order; only those that can “take it” are sent to you. Our Texas-grown plants, those we consider worthy garden subjects, have proven hardy from Maine to California, and when they hold up after our rigid tests in the Texas sun you can be sure you have something worth having. As to their hardiness, we get enough freeze to burst unprotected water pipes and to kill out many weak Daylilies, yet enough heat in the summer to show up a Daylily that can’t “take it.” The plants we send out are all hardy, blooming-size plants, and all orders amounting to \$3.00 or more are sent postpaid; otherwise, send 50c for postage.

• Our 1955 Introductions •

Lower-priced varieties (more plentiful stock) on pages 24 and 25

It is with much regret that we are forced to withdraw all our 1954 introductions from this catalog. The remaining stock of those we offered last year we must hold until we have increased it, because of the overwhelming demand for the following varieties: Bordertown, Collector's Item, Coral Beds, D. R. McKeithan, Fast Company, Joe House, Lime Grove, Miss Nan, Mary Russell, Mister, Mrs. H. M. Russell, Pioneer's Dream, Society Folks, Texas Sunrise and all the Painted Lady Clan. (See our 1954 catalog for reference.)

These varieties that we have selected for 1955 introduction have been grown by us and tested for many years. We believe they include the finest plants to be found in America today. None of them are priced higher than \$6.00. We request that you order early from this list to be sure of not being disappointed, for we may be sold out of our new introductions again this year.

These were selected from thousands that we had grown under number for years. The only way we ever grew enough stock before releasing these was simply to cut off the blooms in the fields. Otherwise, local people would have bought us out before we were ready to release them. When visiting other growers, I am amazed to learn that so many of them are introducing their varieties when they have only two or three clumps. I wouldn't think of introducing a variety until I had several years to check and test it thoroughly in several gardens over the country, in order to know its garden value. Then too, while this is being done, we are growing sufficient stock to offer. The blooming season given here is for Texas. A little later season can be expected in the North.

ALWAYS. Dormant. (Russell)

This fully rounded, 4-inch, ruffled flower is of the palest lemon to lime color. If I had a thousand yellow varieties, I would want this. It is an extremely fast grower and seems to bloom forever. Ht. 3 ft. -June, July. \$3.00 each.

ENCHANTED ISLE. Semi-Dormant. (Russell)

A beautiful, 4-inch, wide-petaled flower of true flesh-pink, with buff midrib and buff throat. It is truly a magnificent thing to own, and in an established clump it is really a sight to behold. Ht. 2½ ft. May, June. \$6.00 each.

GOLDSWEPT. Dormant. (Russell)

Wide, 5-inch flowers with overlapping petals of the deepest yellow, quite different from any other yellows in our fields. It has the finest texture, and the flower is slightly recurved. Ht. 2½ ft. April and July. \$4.00 each.

HERE'S HOW. Dormant. (Russell)

A fine dwarf in a shade of buff-cantaloupe hard to describe. The mass of bloom with wide, recurved petals is something you will never forget and will love always. Extremely fast grower. Ht. 20 in. April, May. \$3.00 each.

HIT SONG. Dormant. (Russell)

Another dwarf, with wide, pale gold flowers with iridescent rose eye zone. Extremely profuse blooming. I predict this dwarf will really go places. Its 4-inch petals open only about four-fifths full, but this only adds to its beauty, and for a flower arrangement it can't be beat. Very fast multiplier, hence the price. Ht. 15 in. April, May. \$3.00 each.

LADY OF SPAIN. Dormant. (Russell)

This beautiful, large, ruffled flower is 7 inches across, with twisted petals. It is a true purple color—not muddy, but a glistening, velvety tone, with a true buff throat. Profuse bloomer but slow to multiply. One of the few real purples. Ht. 3 ft. May, June. \$6.00 each.

*I surely wish
you would read
pages two and three
of this catalog
if you haven't
already done so.
It's worth your
time.*

H. M. RUSSELL.

• • •

**We are the winners
of the Stout Medal
• The Highest Honor
that could be
given a breeder of
Daylilies.**

Remember . . .

**Our Plants are
hardy Permanent
Perennials.**

**Proven so from
Maine to California.**

. . .

*There are more of
our varieties on
the poll of the
one hundred best
in America than
any other grower
. . . . voted so by
competent judges
from all parts
of America.*

• Our 1955 Introductions •

MAINLINER. Dormant. (Russell)

The 4-inch, ivory-buff flower with a rich purple eye zone is quite distinct, with one of the most pleasing color combinations I have ever seen. Ruffled, slightly recurved, very wide petals. Ht. 20 in. April, May. \$4.00 each.

MUSIC HALL. Semi-Dormant. (Russell)

This ruffled, wide flower is 6 inches across, and as many as 35 buds come on one stem. It is richest gold in color, with a velvety sheen. Imagine a piece of golden velvet tapestry, and that is exactly what you have. The flower is so far removed from ordinary yellows that it can easily be distinguished from all others. Ht. 3 ft. May. \$3.00 each.

NEWCOMER. Semi-Dormant. (Russell)

A true wine-red, widest-petaled, 5-inch flower with a buff throat, ruffled and recurved. This is one you will never forget when you see it in an established clump. Ht. 2½ ft. April, May. \$6.00 each.

NEW DAY. Dormant. (Russell)

Huge, 6-inch, wide-petaled flower of deep, true rose-pink, with an ivory midrib and buff throat. It is ruffled and the whole bloom is slightly reflexed. A flower to hold one spellbound. Ht. 2 ft. April, again in July. \$4.00 each.

NEW ROMANCE. Dormant. (Russell)

Wide, 5-inch flowers of true rose-red, with deeper eye zone and buff throat. It blooms again and again, beginning in April. Ht. 2 ft. \$4.00 each.

ROBIN. Evergreen. (Russell)

This miniature with 3-inch flowers of vivid, deep Chinese red has deeper mahogany veins and a cool apple-green throat. It grows only 18 inches tall and seems never to stop blooming, beginning in April and again in July. It is a midget I am sure the Daylily world will be proud of. An extremely fast multiplier, growing into thick, miniature clumps. Ht. 18 in. \$2.00 each.

SEADRIFT. Semi-Dormant. (Russell)

A 4-inch flower of real rose color, with a deep wine eye zone and buff throat, shading to green in the center. Very ruffled and recurved. An unusually fast grower in an indescribable shade of rose. Ht. 2½ ft. May, June. \$3.00 each.

SERENITY. Semi-Dormant. (Russell)

A big, 6-inch, wide-petaled, real pink flower with ivory sepals, ivory midrib and green throat. It's a full-open bloom and will hold its own among the pinks. Ht. 2 ft. May, June. \$6.00 each.

SILVER BAY. Dormant. (Russell)

Giant, 7-inch, lemon-colored flowers with ruffled, wide petals. Simply enveloped in bloom when established. One of the true Goliaths in our fields. I have been asked for several years to introduce it. Ht. 3 ft. April, May, again in August. \$6.00 each.

TEXCAPADE. Dormant. (Russell)

Another tiny, 18-inch plant. The 4-inch flower is a vivid rose-red of finest form and texture. Among the dwarf varieties that are sweeping this part of the country, it stands in a class by itself. It is a very fast grower and one of the most profuse bloomers in our fields. Ht. 18 in. April, May, again in July. \$3.00 each.

THE HEIRESS. Dormant. (Russell)

This rosy wine-colored flower with gold overlay is only 4 inches wide, but its profusion of bloom on straight, erect stems more than makes up for its size. A real "find," if there ever was one. Ht. 3 ft. April, May. \$4.00 each.

VIOLACEA. Semi-Dormant. (Russell)

This beautiful, 4½-inch, violet-pink flower is in a unique color class, for it has ivory sepals, a buff throat shading to green in the center, and slightly recurved petals. Very fast grower, hence the price. Ht. 2½ ft. April, May. \$3.00 each.

• Proven Standbys •

(Hardy from Maine to California)



A small part of our thirty acres of Hemerocallis, more than a million plants

See pages 24 and 25 for still lower-priced varieties

(We simply have more stock of those listed there)

The varieties listed here and on pages 24 and 25 we predicted would remain among the best in America. Now they have become standard, and it was our variety that remained at the top of the Hemerocallis poll longer than any variety on earth—three solid years. You will find more of our varieties listed among the 100 best than of any other grower anywhere. Bragging? Yes, because we are proud of it. We never introduce a Daylily until we have grown sufficient stock to list it at a price that everyone can afford. This is no hobby with us, but our living. We are growing thirty solid acres. Thanks to you who have made this possible for us.

Our success is due solely to home gardeners. While we are the largest growers of Daylilies in the United States, we still do not have better varieties in sufficient quantities to cater to nurseries at wholesale. I feel that we'd rather get our prices as cheap as we can to offer to you gardeners who have made our business what it is. In making up this catalog, don't you ever forget that I kept you foremost in my thoughts in offering you better varieties at the lowest prices possible. This I feel is the best way to say "thank you" for your confidence in us. You can have better Daylilies now and without paying the fancy price charged by some who introduce them when they have only one or two clumps in their back yard. We test ours years before offering them. While they are being tested, our stock is being grown in sufficient quantities to be priced right. Yes, I actually claim ours are the best varieties on earth and offered at the lowest prices, even low enough now so that you can plant them in groups of 3 or more at the price some are asking for one. Some of our loveliest new varieties are not shown in color; it's impossible to print them all.

VARIETIES SOLD SHORT

We have received many letters from growers asking us why we fail to list certain varieties. Our answer is simple: Ever since we have been in business, we have hardly ever offered a variety that didn't become completely sold out that season, and we had to take it off the market until we worked up enough stock to offer it again. Some of these varieties you will find listed here for the first time in several seasons, and many of these we're sure won't last the season through.

PROVEN STANDBYS

LEMONS, LIMES AND GOLDS

AUGUST ORANGE. Dormant. (Stout)

A profusion of small, rich orange blooms on heavily branched, vigorous plants. Unusually effective in the landscape and a needed companion for August Pioneer. Good evenings. Ht. 3 ft. August, September. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

DESERT STAR. Dormant. (Russell)

This buff flower resembles a floret of a huge delphinium. The petals are ruffled, as though sewed in pleats. Holds its face slightly upright; the green throat enhances the beauty of this 4-inch bloom. A fast multiplier. Ht. 2½ ft. April, May. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

EMILY BROWN. Dormant. (Russell)

A deep yellow Daylily with texture like leather and a sheen that absolutely glistens in the sun. The wide, 5-inch bloom is really breath-taking, and I am proud to be responsible for the introduction of this jewel of jewels. Ht. 3 ft. May, June. \$2.00 each; 3 for \$5.00.

GOLD CARGO. Evergreen. (Russell)

The deepest, richest gold flower, more than 7 inches across, of the thickest leathery texture; slightly ruffled petals and recurved sepals of the same even color clear on into the throat. This huge bloom remains open at night, and fresh buds continue to open in abundance after being cut. It has a velvety sheen over the whole flower, making it a most outstanding deep yellow. Fortunately a vigorous, fast grower. Ht. 3 ft. May, June. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

HIAWATHA. Dormant. (Stout)

A multifloral type of clear orange tone, having many blooms to the scape. Always a good garden subject. Ht. 3 ft. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

JUNE OLCOTT. Evergreen. (Russell)

This is truly a new break, which looks more like a freesia than a Daylily. (See color photo on back cover.) I have seen as many as 40 buds on a single stem, and the 1½-inch flower opens only four-fifths full, making it lovely for flower arrangements. It is a golden yellow self. We are offering this again after a four-year absence. I have never seen anyone who didn't want this variety. Ht. 3 ft. April, May. \$3.00 each; 3 for \$7.50.

LAMARQUE. Evergreen. (Russell)

This very wide-petaled, rich buttercup-yellow bloom is about 4½ inches across. The petals overlap and are very ruffled. It keeps well in the evening, making it suitable for cutting. Ht. 3 ft. May, June. \$2.00 each; 3 for \$5.00.

MODERN GAL. Evergreen. (Russell)

A huge, 8-inch, wide-petaled, buff flower. This is not lemon, nor chrome, nor golden, but a giant flower of true creamy buff, a solid self. Ht. 3 ft. June, July. \$2.00 each; 3 for \$5.00.

MOONGATE. Evergreen. (Russell)

Canary-yellow, 5-inch blooms with green throat. Wide, twisted petals of the firmest texture; recurving sepals. A very fast multiplier. Ht. 3½ ft. April, May. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

MRS. B. F. BONNER. Evergreen. (Russell)

The same pale lemon color as Hyperion, but much larger, with wider petals and better texture. It lasts longer in the evening, has a much longer blooming season and is more free flowering. 6-inch bloom. Ht. 2½ to 3 ft. May, June. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

ON TOUR. Evergreen. (Russell)

A beautiful, 6-inch flower of the very palest yellow. The petals are extremely wide and slightly twisted at the ends. I have had this variety in and out of my catalog for many years while we worked up stock. If you ask me to choose the best pale lemon, I'll give you this one. Ht. 3 ft. May, June. \$1.50 each; 3 for \$4.00.

PERSONAL APPEARANCE. Dormant. (Russell)

Very late, really a fall bloomer in the North. Its 5-inch bloom is pale yellow, faintly overcast golden canary-yellow. Keeps as a cut flower far into the night. Ht. 2½ ft. August, September here in Texas; later in the North. \$1.50 each; 3 for \$4.00.

PRAIRIE BOY. Dormant. (Sass)

A large, full-flowered orange self. Ht. 3½ ft. July, August. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

WELAKA. Evergreen. (Watkins)

Medium-sized flowers of good substance, rippled like crepe paper. Mandarin-orange in color, flushed with rosy fulvous tones. Ht. 2½ ft. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

Please Note—IMPORTANT: The size of the illustrations in this catalog is no indication of the actual size of the bloom. Some varieties shown here in a small illustration are actually much larger than some of the large photographs. The description of each variety will tell you the size of the bloom.

PROVEN STANDBYS

PINK, SALMON, ROSE AND PASTELS

AMULET. Dormant. (Nesmith)

New ruffled pink. Light Chinese-coral, lightly flushed azalea-pink in center of petals and with a darker pink zone in the throat. Ht. 3½ ft. June, July. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

BALLET DANCER. Dormant. (Nesmith)

Smoothly lustrous, delicate flowers between buff-pink and grenadine-pink, of charming, full-petaled form. Ht. 3 ft. June, July. \$2.00 each; 3 for \$5.00.

BETTER DAYS. Semi-Dormant. (Russell)

Truly lavender-pink, far more pink than lavender, with buff-green throat. A pastel that pleases everybody. 4½-inch bloom. Ht. 3 ft. June, July. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

B. II. FARR. Evergreen. (Stout)

This large, wide-petaled pastel is a rosy peach color hard to describe. An extremely profuse bloomer and fast multiplier. Ht. 3 ft. May, June. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

CANDY HEART. Dormant. (Nesmith)

A dainty Hemerocallis especially suited for the front of the border and flower arrangements. Very pale flesh-pink with a well-defined halo of carmine-rose in the heart of the thick-textured bloom. Strong, sturdy stalks, well branched. Ht. 38 in. August. \$5.00 each.

CHINA ROSE. Dormant. (Russell)

Real rosy red with a light midrib in each petal and a yellow trace around the entire flower. The throat is green and the petals ruffled. 4½-inch bloom. Ht. 3 ft. April, May and again July. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

DE-LOVELY. Evergreen. (Russell)

A wonderful, wide-petaled, 5-inch bloom of true old-rose, in a color class quite distinct from any other. A profuse bloomer and fast multiplier. Ht. 3 ft. May, June. 75c each; 3 for \$2.00.

FULVA ROSEA. Dormant. (Species)

The most beautiful of all species of Hemerocallis. The flowers are rose-pink, on a graceful stalk. Ht. 3½ ft. June, July. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

HAZEL SAWYER. Evergreen. (Wheeler)

Medium-sized, lavender-pink flower, with frilled and recurved petals. Truly a thing of beauty and worthy of space in any garden. Ht. 3 ft. May, June. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

MAID MARIAN. Dormant. (Lester)

A 6-inch, coral-rose bloom, slightly ruffled, with throat of yellow tinted green. The color is free of any fulvous tint. Ht. 3½ ft. \$7.00 each.

MILADY. Dormant. (Nesmith)

Salmon-pink with slender fluted petals and smoothly finished sepals. A delightful flower. Ht. 3½ ft. May, June. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

PEACH BLOSSOM. Dormant. (Russell)

Want a real pink? This beautiful peachy pink defies the hottest sun. It appears to be true flesh-powder-pink. The rounded, 4-inch, ruffled blooms keep perfectly in the evening, making it wonderful for cutting. We believe it beats all others in its color class—yes, even those priced five times higher. Ht. 3 ft. June, July. \$5.00 each.

PINK PARADISE. Semi-Dormant. (G. Douglas)

Appropriately named, for it is a heavenly pink color. An open, cupped flower of pale jasper-red with a slightly deeper overlay of pink, blending down to a cool mimosa-yellow throat. Delicate and dainty in color, it stands hot sun and does not wilt or fade. The plant is especially well branched. Ht. 38 in. July, August. \$10.00 each.

PINK PRELUDE. Semi-Dormant. (Nesmith)

Lovely dawn-pink. A self except for a pale flesh-pink midrib on the petals and just a touch of cool yellow at the base of the sepals and petals. The lightly fluted flower does not seem to have a trace of salmon in it. Large, full blooms and good branching habit. Ht. 39 in. July, August. \$12.00 each.

PIQUANTE. Dormant. (Nesmith)

An unusual and pleasing self-toned flower of Eugenia-rose with cadmium-yellow in the heart. The blooms have a decidedly raspberry-pink color. Ht. 3½ ft. July, August. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

SYLVIA. Dormant. (Russell)

This Daylily was introduced by me some few seasons ago, but on account of the demand, it had to be taken off the market. Now we have enough stock to offer it again. The large, 5-inch, rosy pink bloom, with deep rosy eye zone, is simply breath-taking. Sepals are lemon color. It keeps well when cut. Ht. 3½ ft. May, June. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

RUSSELL GARDENS, SPRING, TEXAS

PROVEN STANDBYS

PLEASING COLOR COMBINATIONS

BAGGETTE. Dormant. (Russell)

This is truly a dream; in fact, it is the winner of the award of merit of the Hemerocallis Society. The wide, overlapping, rounded petals are of the palest lemon, deeply shaded with rose-pink. It stands high on the popularity poll. I'm not pricing it for five dollars, as some are doing with theirs that haven't even reached the poll, nor even three dollars, two dollars or one dollar, but a mere 75c. We knew years ago that it would turn out to be much sought after, as are many other varieties listed in this group. This is truly one of America's "Daylilies of tomorrow," which many of the famous hybridizers got from us "yesterday" to use in their crosses. A wonderful subject for cutting, for it keeps far into the evening. Ht. 2½ ft. April, May. 75c each; 3 for \$2.00.

BERNICE RUSSELL. Evergreen. (Russell)

A most magnificent shade of rosy cinnamon-yellow bordering on brownish, but to me far more appealing than Painted Lady because it does not have the depth of brown. 7-inch bloom. Ht. 2½ ft. April, May. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

BESS BUCHANAN. Dormant. (Russell)

This buff to cantaloupe-colored flower has deep, wide, rose veins running through it. The ruffled, 5-inch flower in an established clump is really magnificent. A very profuse bloomer. Ht. 3 ft. May, June. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

CABALLERO. Evergreen. (Stout)

I suppose everyone loves this flower. The petals are vermilion-red with golden yellow sepals. It was produced at the New York Botanical Gardens. Free blooming. Ht. 3½ ft. June, July. 75c each; 3 for \$2.00.

FANCY TRIMMIN'S. Dormant. (Russell)

Ruffled, rosy pink petals and yellow sepals, deeply overcast with rose. Deeper rose eye zone. 3½-inch bloom. Ht. 18 in. June, July. 75c each; 3 for \$2.00.

FANTASIA. Evergreen. (Stout)

Orange, brown and red over a yellow ground. The very curled and twisted segments add much interest to the unusual color pattern. Ht. 4 ft. June, July. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

GAY TROUBADOUR. Dormant. (Nesmith)

Indian red and maize-yellow bicolor. Ht. 4 ft. July, August. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

JUST MARY. Dormant. (Russell)

Red veins running through a yellow background, shading into a rich green throat. As many as 40 to 75 buds on a stem, with seven blooms open at once. 5-inch bloom. Ht. 3 ft. May to July. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

LILLIAN RUSSELL. Evergreen. (Russell)

Now comes a break in colors. The petals are rich rose slightly overcast with lavender; the sepals are lemon, deeply sprinkled with rose, ruffled and slightly reflexed. The big, full bloom is 6 inches across, with wide petals that overlap. It has a huge, sulphur-green throat. Habit of growth, size and form are like that of Hyperion, but the texture is far superior, making it wonderful as a cut flower because it stays open so long at night. A most abundant bloomer and a vigorous grower. Ht. 2½ ft. May, June. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

MYONNE. Evergreen. (Vestal)

A variety that is fast coming to the front with its rich reddish bronze petals and old-gold sepals. A fast grower and one I'm sure you will want in this quiet, subdued tone. Ht. 3½ ft. May, June. \$2.00 each; 3 for \$5.00.

MORE WORDS FROM OUR GARDENING FRIENDS

Dear Sir:

Aug. 21, 1954

I would like to say that nowhere in the country could you possibly have more staunch supporters of Hemerocallis (from Russell, of course) than the Peaches of Basking Ridge. Even with the driest June and July in New Jersey in 110 years, our lilies were as large and as vivid as ever. Year after year we hope to continue to add to our number by twenty or thirty. This is the one plant that our constantly growing herd of wild rabbits refuses to touch. Praise be for Hemerocallis!

Very truly yours,

MRS. WALTER C. PEACH
239 Spencer Road
Basking Ridge, N. J.

Dear Mr. Russell:

Aug. 1954

After seeing the gorgeous, breath-taking display of daylilies in our garden this summer from Hemerocallis purchased from you during the past four years, I couldn't resist your amazing sale of these splendid lilies. A person has to see these lilies in bloom to really appreciate their beauty.

Sincerely yours,

MRS. G. T. HEMROTH
12 N. Remsen Ave.
Wappingers Falls, N. Y.

PROVEN STANDBYS

REDS AND WINES

While much has been written about the colors of Daylilies, I still believe it is impossible to appreciate these wonderful reds and wines fully without actually seeing them growing in your garden. Even those of you who insist on only lighter colors will usually come to agree with me when I say that it takes this depth in colors to bring out the true value of the lemons and pastels. Many varieties offered under the heading Reds and Wines are older standbys that we have offered for many years, and we believe they will remain among America's best during our entire lifetime.

While the Daylily craze is sweeping America, there is a great deal of "swapping" (and what a wonderful idea) of plants going on among many gardeners, but in some cases they were possibly not quite careful enough about their labels. This has inevitably resulted in some of the smaller growers acquiring misnamed stock and offering it for sale in the best of faith (but still misnamed). Let's all *know* we are right in this, and not just *think* so. We make the greatest effort to keep our plants **POSITIVELY** true to name. In our 2½ million plants, if we ever found one plant in a row where it didn't belong, our entire operations would halt, if necessary, to remove that plant and remove it *immediately*. You can be assured that all stock you receive from Russell Gardens is strictly true to name and of a quality we believe to be unsurpassed, yet at prices everyone can afford. You are doing us the utmost favor to inform us immediately if you ever have reason to complain.

ADAGIO. Dormant. (Russell)

An unusual, brilliant red, between a fiery red and a black-red, with deeper eye zone and small yellow throat. Keeps perfectly. For you who are seeking an outstanding red, this is it. 4-inch bloom. Ht. 3 ft. May, June. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

ALLAPATAH. Evergreen. (Watkins)

A large flower of fine texture. In color it approaches mascara. A real contender in the dark maroon field. Originated in Florida. Ht. 3 ft. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

ANNETTE. Dormant. (Russell)

Mahogany-red, almost a black-red. This lovely, 6-inch flower has a deep, wide, chrome-colored throat. Its height is only 20 inches, which is quite unusual for a Daylily in this color class. April, May, June. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

BLACK PRINCE. Dormant. (Russell)

Looking for a real dark red? Here's one that's almost black and will stand up under the hottest sun. Keeps well in the evening. The petals and sepals are an even color, with a slightly darker eye zone. The throat has a small yellow cup. Petals and sepals are wide, opening full, slightly reflexed, with velvety finish. Ht. 3½ ft. April, May. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

BLANCHE HOOKER. Evergreen. (Stout)

A 4½-inch flower of brick-red with deep chrome throat. Long blooming season. Ht. 3 ft. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

CANYON PURPLE. Dormant. (Nesmith)

One of the finest steps toward a bluish Daylily. It is a dark red variety with an overlay or sheen of plum or prune-purple, which is highly distinctive. Very nice broad flowers. Ht. 38 in. Midseason. \$5.00 each.

CARNIVAL. Dormant. (Russell)

Now here's a real circus-wagon-red with a deeper, rich red eye zone. When this is in full bloom, you have something in your garden to really make them take note. A 4-inch bloom with chrome throat. Ht. 3 ft. May, June. \$1.00 each.

CHEE CHEE. Dormant. (Russell)

This small, 3½-inch flower with wide, rounded, rich scarlet-red petals and huge, deep yellow throat is a twice bloomer, in April, May and again in July. It defies any weather conditions. Ht. 2½ ft. \$1.00 each.

CRIMSON STAR. Semi-Evergreen. (Douglas)

Large, open flower of crimson, flushed deeper on the petals and sepals just above the gold cup. The brilliance of the flowers is outstanding, and it makes a stunning clump in the garden, with fifteen or more buds on a stem. Ht. 3 ft. July. \$10.00 each.

DAWN PLAY. Evergreen. (Nesmith)

A wide-open bloom of a deep velvety rose, with a beautiful golden throat. Very free blooming. Ht. 4 ft. June, July. \$1.00 each.

PROVEN STANDBYS

REDS AND WINES, continued

DOMINION. Dormant. (Stout)

Extra-large, full flowers with rich red colorings in a concentric three-toned pattern. Second period of irregular bloom from mid-August until November. Strong, bold, royal. Good in the evening. Ht. 3½ ft. June, July. \$1.00 each.

FLANDERS. Dormant. (Lester)

Wide, overlapping petals of almost crimson-red, a color carried deep into the throat. One of the most weather-resistant. Heavy bloomer. Ht. 3 ft. June, July. \$3.00 each.

GARNET ROBE. Evergreen. (Milliken)

Glowing deep velvety red, with yellow-green throat. Very attractive and a fine performer the country over. Ht. 3 ft. June, July. \$5.00 each.

GREAT MOMENTS. Dormant. (Russell)

This lovely rich Chinese-red gleaming in the hottest sun is really difficult to describe. While it is only 3½ inches across, it's one of the most profuse-blooming flowers you can imagine. How a color can be so brilliant and yet so subdued is hard for me to say, but that's the way it is, and it will be a red in your garden you will always love. Ht. 2½ ft. June, July. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

GUNSTON HALL. Dormant. (Russell)

Tiny, 2½-inch flowers of a deeper shade of crimson-red on a 15-inch stem. This beautiful dwarf grows into a compact clump simply enveloped in bloom. Planted in the foreground, it is a joy in anyone's garden. Ht. 15 in. April, May, again in August. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

HAILE SELASSIE. Evergreen. (Wheeler)

A 5-inch flower of deep purplish maroon. The sepals are a little lighter than the petals, producing a slight bicolor effect. Much in demand. Ht. 3 ft. June, July. \$2.00 each; 3 for \$5.00.

INDIAN HILLS. Dormant. (Russell)

Another lovely 20-inch dwarf. The 5-inch blooms are of the richest brilliant light red, almost deep orange-red. I've seen no other dwarf in this color and surely none that blooms so profusely. May, June. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

LENA BROCK HOOVER. Dormant. (Russell)

True rich purple with deeper violet-purple veins and a still deeper purple eye zone. Not a muddy purple, but a glorious true purple, with the widest petals, fully rounded form, recurved sepals and a lovely, distinct green throat. My choice of all purples for this season of the year and quite different in shape from our Purple Sage. A prolific grower and abundant bloomer. 4½-inch bloom. Ht. 2½ ft. April, May, June. 75c each; 3 for \$2.00.

MELODIES. Dormant. (Russell)

This beautiful rosy red, 5-inch bloom with deeper rose eye, has a green throat that sets it apart from anything in its class. Truly a wonderful flower. Ht. 2½ ft. May, June. 75c each; 3 for \$2.00.

MOROCCO RED. Dormant. (Nesmith)

Brilliant velvety red flowers, 4½ inches across. A profuse bloomer that is fast coming to the front in American gardens. Ht. 2½ ft. July, August. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

MY DREAM. Dormant. (Russell)

Five-inch, Chinese-red bloom with gold mid-rib and big gold throat. Huge, wide petals, slightly recurved. Ht. 2½ ft. June. 75c each; 3 for \$2.00.

PARAMOUNT. Evergreen. (Russell)

This wide-petaled Daylily of rich red, ruffled and slightly recurved, is an unusually profuse bloomer. The stiff, erect stems are something to remember on a well-established clump. A fast multiplier and one that certainly needs no pampering. Ht. 2½ ft. June, July. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

PLUM MIST. Dormant. (Claar)

Large, open flowers of misty purple-plum color, with a smooth, velvety finish; shallow cup of chrome-yellow. One hybridizer poetically described it as looking like "black chiffon over velvet." \$2.00 each; 3 for \$5.00.

RED BIRD. Evergreen. (Stout)

Vermilion-red with oxblood eye and yellow-green throat. A brilliant Daylily. Ht. 3 ft. May, June. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

RED DIAMONDS. Dormant. (Russell)

The richest of all circus-wagon-reds, with a velvety texture over its dark red eye zone, with rich veins running through its ruffled petals. Really a beauty. The sepals are recurved and ruffled; the throat is yellow. 4-inch bloom. Ht. 2 ft. June, July. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

RED MOON. Dormant. (Russell)

This beautiful orange-red, 5-inch bloom has deeper red veins through its petals, giving the effect of a different-colored Painted Lady. Admired by everyone visiting our gardens. A fast multiplier and abundant bloomer. Ht. 3 ft. May, June. \$3.00 each.

RUBY SUPREME. Evergreen. (Wheeler)

Wide-open, luminous ruby-red, 5½-inch bloom with green-gold throat. A real beauty. May, June. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

Continued on page 18

YOU WILL FIND LESS EXPENSIVE VARIETIES ON THE BACK PAGES

On pages 24 and 25 you'll really find some bargains!

Skeeter

This is not his real name, but the fact of it is he was so small when he came here we just called him Skeeter. Well, anyway, if Skeeter gets as busy as the rest of the kids, he won't have time here in this Daylily business to think much about that nickname.

Skeeter is our seventh grandchild and believe you me, I have all my seven children and their children on my mind every minute I'm conducting my business, for it is their future that I am looking forward to in maintaining the kind of business we set out to run in the first place. I am well aware of the fact that no business will ever have a future unless we first and foremost keep YOU, our valued customers, on our minds always. This is no "fly-by-night" affair with us; we are proud that we are the largest growers of Daylilies in all America. Once again we want to thank you for putting us there. Oh no, we have no intention of letting you down!

**WE ARE, AND HAVE BEEN FOR YEARS, A MEMBER
OF THE NATIONAL BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU**



SKEETER IS GETTING OLD. *The evidence is before him*



The Type We Use in Plant Breeding

PROVEN STANDBYS

REDS AND WINES, continued from page 15

SCARLET SUNSET. Evergreen. (Wheeler)

I think this Daylily was well named, for its bright scarlet flower is one of the most vibrant colors in existence today. Very profuse bloomer and one of the fastest growers in our fields. If you want brilliance in your garden, here it is. Ht. 3 ft. June, July. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

STAMPEDE. Evergreen. (Russell)

Mahogany-red giant with deeper red eye zone. A 6-inch bloom with wide petals. Ht. 3 ft. April, May. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

THE DIRECTOR. Dormant. (Russell)

A huge, wide flower with overlapping petals, fully ruffled and crinkled like crepe paper. The color is rich wine-red, not a fiery red, with narrow veins of burgundy. The sepals are a shade lighter and the throat is chrome color. These 5-inch blooms are magnificent—even more beautiful in the late evening after the sun has played on them all day. Ht. 2½ ft. May, June. 75c each; 3 for \$2.00.

THERON. Dormant. (Stout)

Deep red, curved and twisted petals. Pale yellow-orange throat, shaded green at base. Ht. 3 ft. June. 75c each; 3 for \$2.00.

THE TEMPEST. Evergreen. (Russell)

Orchid-red with richest green throat. Wide, overlapping petals on a 4½-inch bloom. Ht. 3 ft. April, May, June. 75c each; 3 for \$2.00.

THOROBRED. Dormant. (Nesmith)

Huge, rich red flowers on tall, graceful stems. Ht. 3½ ft. July, August. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.50.

THUNDERHEAD. Dormant. (Nesmith)

As the name implies, this is a very dark Daylily. Full open flowers of velvety red, flushed almost black, with a very small, deep yellow throat. Outstanding lustrous sheen. Ht. 3½ ft. June, July. \$2.00 each; 3 for \$5.00.

VIGILANTE. Evergreen. (Russell)

This is a "must." A large, 5-inch flower of the richest velvety rosy red, with a green throat. Recurved sepals and ruffled petals. Ht. 3 ft. May, June. 75c each; 3 for \$2.00.

We could print many thousands more complimentary testimonials, but space won't permit.



Our Pool and Birdhouse. Note the Mimosa Tree over the Birdhouse.



We Like Varieties That Really Bloom
Note This One Stem

WHAT OTHERS SAY OF OUR DAYLILIES

Dear Mr. Russell:

Aug. 8, 1954

I want to tell you how pleased I am with the daylilies I got from you in 1951. They had an excellent blooming season this year. One is now blooming in spite of 106-degree temperature—a full month of 100 degrees or higher.

Sincerely,

B. W. KAHLA
3563 Winston Road
Fort Worth, Texas

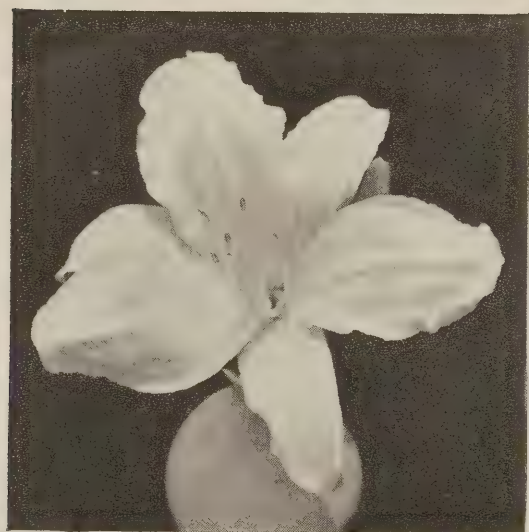
Dear Sir:

May 3, 1954

Yesterday I received the twelve varieties of daylilies which you sent me in good condition, after five weeks in transit. Thank you for shipping me those vigorous plants. They will have the care and attention that “royalty” deserves.

Very truly yours,

EMILIO L. ESTRERA
66 Ulilang Kawayan St.
Paz, Paco, Manila, Philippines



We Like to Use Full-petaled, Wide Varieties in Our Plant Breeding and Those Proven Hardy. Note Photos and Prices in Others' Catalogs.

MORE LETTERS FROM OUR FRIENDS

Dear Mr. Russell:

July 5, 1954

I've been enjoying your lovely daylilies that I have had now for two years. They are simply beautiful flowers, just as you described in your lovely catalog. The hot sun and wind sure doesn't hurt the blooms.

Yours very truly,
VERA MASKA
416 W. 13th St.
Hays, Kans.

Dear Russells:

I am sold on Russell's daylilies. I believe you have the prettiest varieties and the finest, healthiest plants I ever saw. I have eighty-five varieties; all but three came from your gardens.

GRACE PROPER
311 Alta Vista
Henderson, Texas

Gentlemen:

July 19, 1954

I just want to let you know we have been enjoying our daylilies every day for the past few years with their beautiful blooms. They are just beautiful! Again I want to tell you how we love the Russell daylilies.

Sincerely,
MRS. J. R. JOHNSON
1250 Illinois Ave.
Ottawa, Ill.

1954

Your stock is everything you say it is, plus much more. Nothing like it any place else in U. S. Your claims are modest, to say the least.

MRS. EDNA M. WARNER
1700 Harvard
Independence, Mo.

A Small Part of Our PROVEN STANDBYS



Black Prince
(Left)
See page 14

Paramount
(Top right)
See page 15

Russell's Minuet
(Bottom right)
See page 25



Skylark. See page 25



Great Moments. See page 15



Purple Waters. See page 25



Mrs. B. F. Bonner. See page 11

NOTES FROM OUR GARDENING FRIENDS

Dear Sir:

1954

Of the daylilies received from you last year only one in ten failed, which I consider quite a record since they came by ordinary mail and took four months to get here.

Yours faithfully,

ADELAIDE H. GIBSON
187 Jofre
Mendoza, Argentina
South America

Dear Sir:

Aug. 9, 1954

Years ago I purchased several kinds of daylilies from you and wish to tell you they far exceed my expectation. They are simply beautiful and many daylily enthusiasts have been here to see them.

Yours truly,

MRS. ALLEN STAFFEN
901 Lake St.
Greenville, Mich.

**More of Our
PROVEN STANDBYS**



Lest You Forget
See page 25



After one year's growth, more than a hundred buds on each clump. There should be more every year if left undisturbed.

**At a price
anyone can afford**



Mt. Vernon. See page 25



Taj Mahal. See page 25

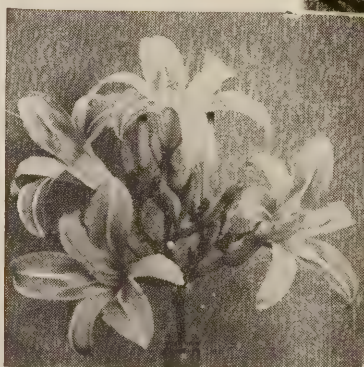


Tejas. See page 25



Flaming Sword
See page 25

*A single stem
of Just Mary*



Just Mary
See page 13

NOTES FROM OUR GARDENING FRIENDS

Gentlemen:

The Hemerocallis arrived in very fine condition, thanks to your care in packing. The plants are fine specimens and strong roots in healthy condition. When I buy additional "Heims," it will be from you.

Yours very truly,
CLARA E. SANDHOFS
16594 Shaftsbury Road
Detroit 19, Mich.

Dear Mr. Russell:

While the Daylilies are at their peak I wanted to take a minute to tell you how beautiful they have been this year (about 90% of the ones I have, came from you). I just wanted to thank you for giving so much beauty and pleasure.

Very truly yours,
MARJORIE R. SAYER
1741 28th St. West
Birmingham 8, Ala.

Russell DWARFS in New Colors



Entirely New for the Foreground

To be able to offer our vast mailing list these wonderful jewels, it was necessary for us to cut the blooms off, here in the fields, until we worked up sufficient stock or the local people would simply have bought us out. We believe no other grower in America can offer miniatures in such colors, which are indispensable for the foreground of perennial beds. These have been checked and double-checked for their dependability, and they are the pride and joy of this whole organization. Imagine what they will do in flower arrangements.

FOUR NEW DWARFS

ALKAZAR. Semi-Dormant. (Russell)

A 3-inch bloom with red petals and gold sepals. Ht. 20 in. May, June.

CHICKADEE. Dormant. (Russell)

Velvety, fiery red, 3-inch flower. Ht. 20 in. April, May.

DUERME. Dormant. (Russell)

Mahogany-red flower, 3½ inches across. Ht. 20 in. June, July.

TINY TIM. Dormant. (Russell)

Tannish red, 3-inch flowers on 18-inch stems. April, May and again in July.

One each of the above four,
sold in a group only, for \$5.00

*Don't
Overlook
the
Dwarfs*



NOTES FROM OUR GARDENING FRIENDS

Dear Sirs:

My order of daylilies arrived yesterday and were in perfect condition. Such nice large plants and great big roots, they were much larger than I expected. They start blooming here early in March and continue all summer.

Sincerely yours,

MRS. T. I. BROWN
Rt. 1, Box 179
St. Cloud, Fla.

Dear Mr. Russell:

August 12
I was delighted to see the mammoth plants I received yesterday in the Complete Daylily Garden I ordered from you. In the past year I planted daylilies from three other nurseries, and although I paid much more, their plants look like seedlings compared to yours.

Very truly yours,
MRS. WALTER D. VERIZZO
24 Vale Drive
Huntington, N. Y.



RUSSELL DAYLILIES AS CUT FLOWERS

More **PROVEN STANDBYS** **ALL 60c EACH**

We are pricing these varieties so low that you may make up your own collection. The varieties found here are among the best grown in America today and have proven satisfactory throughout the country. Personally, we think these are about as lovely as many of the more expensive varieties, and that is why we worked up such a huge stock, so that we might price them more reasonably. Surely group plantings of one color are beautiful, and we have priced these low enough so that you may buy several of one variety at a price you'd be asked to pay for a single variety in some cases. Every plant shipped from this list will be an excellent blooming-size plant that will be sure to please you.

Baby Tears. Evergreen. (Russell) Ruffled, rosy red petals; yellow sepals. 4-inch bloom. Ht. 3½ ft. May, June.

Bagdad. Dormant. (Stout) Rich brown and red. Ht. 4 ft. May, June.

Belle of Georgia. Dormant. (Russell) Yellow overcast peach. A "must-have." 4-inch bloom. Ht. 3 ft. April, May.

Breeze. Evergreen. (Russell) Old-rose with green throat. Rounded, 4-inch bloom. Semi-dwarf—2 ft. April to June.

RUSSELL GARDENS
SPRING, TEXAS

PLEASE ENTER MY ORDER FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS TO BE SENT TO ME:

Name (Print Plainly) _____

Address—

City-

State

When to Ship

May we substitute in same color class of equal or better value?

I enclose \$_____

or send C. O. D.

Date_____195

... WE DELIVER FREE

on all orders amounting to \$3.00 or more,
otherwise add 50c for postage and packing.

STATE PLAINLY WHEN YOU WISH SHIPMENT MADE

[illegible]

CONTINUED OVER

RUSSELL GARDENS
SPRING, TEXAS

FOLD ON THIS LINE

[illegible]

NO POSTAGE STAMP NECESSARY IF MAILED IN THE UNITED STATES

SPRING, TEXAS

FOLD ON THIS LINE

IMPORTANT

Env-O-Blank T.M. Reg. in U. S. Pat. Off. Wessel Co., 2900 S. Michigan, Chicago,

[illegible]

More PROVEN STANDBYS • ALL 60c EACH

Any 10 for \$5.50; any 20 for \$10.00, postpaid

- Capitola.** Dormant. (Russell) Rich rose; sepals buff-yellow. Keeps well in the evening. Ht. 3 ft. May, June.
- Dauntless.** Evergreen. (Stout) Huge; cadmium-yellow with faint fulvous mark. Ht. 2½ ft. May, June.
- Dixie Belle.** Dormant. (Russell) Chinese-red with green throat. Ht. 2½ ft. Late June through July.
- Duncan.** Evergreen. (Wheeler) Dark maroon with golden throat. Ht. 2½ ft. May, June.
- Encore.** Evergreen. (Russell) Brilliant tomato-red, striped yellow; creamy throat. 4½-inch bloom. Ht. 2½ ft. May, June.
- Evangeline.** Evergreen. (Russell) Wine color with yellow throat. 4-inch bloom. Ht. 4½ ft. April, May.
- Far Away.** Dormant. (Russell) Brilliant rose-salmon, 4-inch bloom. Ht. 2½ ft. May.
- Flaming Sword.** Dormant. (Russell) Satiny flaming red, 3½-inch flower. Profuse bloom. Ht. 2½ ft. May, June.
- Hyperion.** Dormant. (Mead) Much-loved, lemon-colored, 4-inch flower always in demand. Ht. 3 ft. May, June.
- In Our Time.** Dormant. (Russell) A ruffled, 6-inch bloom, rose over lemon; throat green. Ht. 3 ft. May, June.
- J. T. Russell.** Evergreen. (Russell) Lemon color; red eye zone. 6-inch bloom. Ht. 3 ft. May, June.
- Lady Frances.** Dormant. (Russell) Rosy salmon, ruffled petals overcast lavender. 4-inch bloom. Ht. 3 ft. May, June.
- Lest You Forget.** Dormant. (Russell) Chinese-red, 4-inch bloom with ruffled petals. Ht. 3 ft. April, May.
- Lights of Paris.** Dormant. (Russell) Yellow, tipped red. 4½-inch bloom. Ht. 3 ft. May, June.
- Little Imp.** Dormant. (Russell) Canary-yellow, 3½-inch blooms; sepals buttercup-yellow. Ht. 15 in. May, June.
- Mary Guenther.** Evergreen. (Russell) Brilliant bicolor of carmine-red and clear yellow. Ht. 3 ft. July, August.
- Mary Rice Fuller.** Evergreen. (Russell) Canary-yellow; rosy brown eye zone; lemon sepals. Ht. 3½ ft. May, June.
- Ming Toy.** Evergreen. (Wheeler) Semi-dwarf. Magenta and orange bicolor.
- Minnie.** Evergreen. (Hayward) Glowing mahogany-red with orange-yellow throat. Ht. 3 ft. July.
- Mt. Vernon.** Dormant. (Russell) Lemon overcast coral-rose. 5-inch bloom. Ht. 2½ ft. April to June.
- My Buddie.** Dormant. (Russell) A 3-inch bloom of mahogany-red; ruffled petals; yellow throat. Ht. 2 ft. May, June.
- Neodesha.** Dormant. (Russell) Wine-red petals; yellow sepals; deep red eye zone. Ht. 2½ ft. May, June.
- Our Pet.** Dormant. (Russell) Yellow overcast orange-red; red eye zone. 3½-inch bloom. Ht. 2 ft. April to June.
- Purple Waters.** Evergreen. (Russell) Deep rich wine, 4½-inch flowers. Ht. 3 ft. April to June.
- Queen of Dallas.** Evergreen. (Russell) Buff-yellow with faint fulvous markings. Ht. 3½ ft. May, June.
- Red Rapture.** Dormant. (Russell) Rich brown-red; sepals yellow overcast brown. Ht. 12 in. May, June.
- Red Token.** Dormant. (Russell) Mahogany-red; purple eye zone. Ht. 2½ ft. May, June.
- Rhythm.** Dormant. (Russell) Rose-red, 3½-inch flower. Ht. 2½ ft. July, August.
- Rose of Texas.** Dormant. (Russell) A 5-inch flower of rosy red. Ht. 3 ft. April, May.
- Russell's Minuet.** Dormant. (Russell) Rose petals; canary sepals. 4½-inch bloom. Ht. 20 in. May, June.
- Salome.** Evergreen. (Russell) Yellow overcast rose; solid yellow sepals. Ht. 12 in. May, June.
- Serenade.** Dormant. (Stout) Gives an effect of pale coral-pink. Ht. 3 ft. May, June.
- Skylark.** Dormant. (Russell) Beautiful lemon blooms of thick texture, 4½ inches across. Remains open until 10 P.M. Ht. 4 ft. May, June.
- Spring Parade.** Dormant. (Russell) Raspberry color with deeper veins. 4-inch flower. Ht. 2 ft. April, May.
- Taj Mahal.** Evergreen. (Russell) Chrome color; purple-red eye zone. 5-inch bloom. Very early.
- Tejas.** Dormant. (Russell) Circus-wagon-red, 4-inch flower. Ht. 3½ ft. April to June.
- Thalia.** Evergreen. (Russell) Yellow overcast rose. 5-inch bloom. Ht. 2½ ft. May, June.
- Tio.** Evergreen. (Russell) Deep red-purple, 4-inch bloom. Ht. 3 ft. June, July.
- Topochico.** Evergreen. (Russell) A 4½-inch, chrome-colored flower. Profuse bloomer. Ht. 2 ft. May.
- Trail of Gold.** Evergreen. (Russell) 6-inch flower. (See cover.) Ht. 3 ft. May, June.
- Zouave.** Evergreen. (Stout) Red bicolor with deeper eye zone. Ht. 3 ft. June, July.

NOTES FROM OUR GARDENING FRIENDS

Gentlemen:

Aug. 23, 1954

I have just received the last shipment of day-lilies from you and I hasten to tell you that these are by far the best plants I have ever received from any grower. I am new in the daylily game but enjoy them very much and am so pleased to have such choice plants.

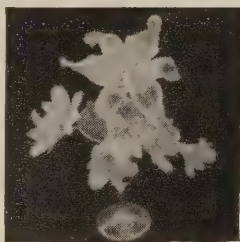
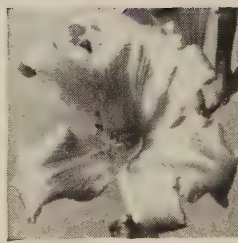
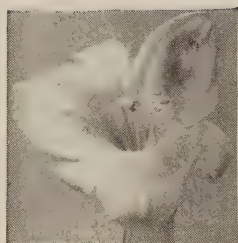
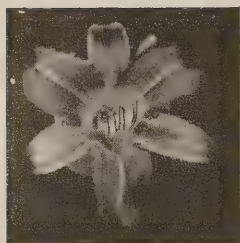
MRS. H. W. GREER
Box 73, Lumberton, Miss.

Gentlemen:

July 17, 1954

I want to tell you how beautifully your lilies have done for us. The ones bought last year have increased nicely, and all have done well in spite of a severe drought. Please do keep me on your list for future mailings. Thank you.

Very truly yours,
(Miss) KIT McDONALD
2550 English Ave., Macon, Ga.



NOTE THE NEW EXOTIC FORMS IN RUSSELL DAYLILIES

VARIETIES SOLD SHORT

We have received many letters from growers asking us why we fail to list certain varieties, and our answer is simple: since we've been in business, we've hardly ever offered a variety that wasn't completely sold out that season, and we had to take it off the market until we worked up enough stock to offer it again. Some of these varieties you will find listed here for the first time in several seasons, and many of these we're sure won't last the season through.

We are now "IN THE PINK"

6 for \$6.00 • 12 for \$10.00, postpaid

For over twenty years we have strived for pink Daylilies. I now have over 75 selected pink varieties growing under number. These particular ones have never been named. They were selected from over 100,000 hybrids, as what we thought were the best and were watched, checked and tested for several years. While we are waiting for the few that we have selected for naming, to increase sufficiently in stock to meet the demand, we are offering you these unnamed varieties at an unheard-of price for such types. There will be raspberry-pinks, rose-pinks, shell-pinks, powder-pinks, etc. I have been asked by my associates to price these higher, yes, even three times higher, but I have decided, since these have proven such fast and robust growers, to list them at prices everyone can afford. Every variety will be different, guaranteed to be excellent, heavy plants that will bloom in your garden next season. Since we are trying to stretch them and make them go around, we will not be able to send as heavy plants as those offered in the rest of this catalog, but, even at this, they will be heavy blooming-size plants, as large or larger than those sent out by any other nursery. Yes, these are pinks and no fooling, many as beautiful as those some are pricing up to \$10.00 each.



REPRODUCED FROM EASTMAN NATURAL COLOR PHOTOGRAPH

The New 1955 Happy Moment Series

Reds, Wines, Maroons, Purples and Bicolors

6 for \$3.00 • 12 for \$5.00 • 25 for \$9.00 • 100 for \$35.00

ALL SENT POSTPAID

(4 Groups of 25)

This new series is the result of crossing and recrossing the best of the widest-petaled hybrids. Here you will find entirely new color combinations and deeper colors—reds, wines, rose and contrasting tones of unusual richness—and not a solid yellow in the lot. If you want real beauty but care nothing about names, then by all means take advantage of this offer. These hybrids have a varied blooming season and should give you five months or more of bloom after becoming established. They grow from 2 to 3 feet high. Do not confuse these with the unchecked seedlings offered by some growers. Sold in mixture only. The photograph above will give you some idea of what you will get in color and petal width. While this series has been offered before, the varieties this year are entirely different.

CONCERNING THESE PHOTOGRAPHS

The complaint is often made that catalog pictures are exaggerated and over-flattering to the actual bloom, but in our case the exact opposite is true. It is impossible for even a good

Kodachrome to do justice to the velvety sheen of the Daylily, and truly the only way for you to get any conception of the beauty of these flowers is to see them for yourself in your own garden.

We pay transportation on all orders amounting to \$3.00 or more; otherwise please add 50c for postage and packing. We reserve the right to reject any orders or parts thereof, depending upon the condition of our stock and whether it has been sold out at the time of ordering. In such a case your money will be refunded. We acknowledge all orders promptly.



The New 1955 Frosty Morn Series

The years spent cross-breeding Daylilies have taught us that while the yellows certainly do predominate, it's still the hardest color to obtain in a worthwhile variety. We have selected from more than 100,000 hybrids, a few choice ones to name. Some of these offered here are entirely too much like those more expensive varieties in these colors that have already been named for us to ever name these for general distribution. Therefore, those of you who want magnificent effects in your garden in cool lemon and gold shades, and care nothing for names, take advantage of this offer. By no means do we ever offer a plant in this series until it has been checked and double-checked. They are unsurpassed as cut flowers in that they remain open so much longer in the evening than do the ordinary varieties. Do not confuse these with the unchecked seedlings offered by some growers. Sold in a mixture only.

6 for \$3.00 • 12 for \$5.00 • 25 for \$9.00 • 100 for \$35.00, postpaid
(4 groups of 25)



The New 1955 Pastel Queen Series

This is an entirely new series consisting of the loveliest colors from soft pastels through the deepest salmon, rose and tints of pink, and combinations of the above colors. Some will be lighter in these color tones than the photograph shows and some will be darker, but all in pastel tints, and not the darker intense colors. The red and yellow flowers were placed in this photograph purposely but are not included in this series. They were placed here merely to give you a comparison of these lovely pastels with bolder colors. Plant some of these even in the severest and coldest climates and get a glimpse of one of the choicest of all my collections. Those of you who want real beauty and care nothing for names should by all means consider this series. There are no reds, wines, purples or solid yellows in the lot. It's simply that these varieties are too similar to some of the most costly ones that have already been named by us to name these for the market. These colors will satisfy the most discriminating people who like softest colors as garden subjects and cut flowers in any home. These are right in the class with many named varieties that some nurseries are pricing at \$3.00, \$5.00, and even \$10.00 each. We will not have these in sufficient quantities to sell other than to home gardeners, and under no circumstances will we allow any discount on this series to any nursery. Each variety will be different.

6 for \$4.00 • 12 for \$7.00 • 25 for \$12.50, postpaid



Part of a Complete Daylily Garden. See opposite page.

DAYLILIES ARE NOT EXPENSIVE

When you talk about sixty cents for this and a dollar for that and three dollars upward for those, it may sound costly to the more inexperienced—especially when they have on their minds a single “bulb.” The fact is that Daylilies are not bulbs at all but herbaceous perennials that will grow into lovely clumps, increasing in size every year for many years, if left undisturbed. Notice the array of blooms in the right foreground of the photograph on the opposite page. That is a single clump, three years old, with more than 400 buds on it. This particular variety happened to be *Lest You Forget*, priced at a mere sixty cents in this catalog. Imagine what would happen to your garden if you had a hundred such clumps in it! What a pleasure it is to know that they are permanent and disease-proof and don’t have to be petted and pampered.

Dear Sir:

June 4, 1954

The plants you were so kind as to send for the Federal Exhibition of Horticulture at Kassel arrived here safely some time ago. In the meantime the plants have rooted well and are beginning to sprout.

We are therefore especially glad to thank you sincerely for your generous-size plants.

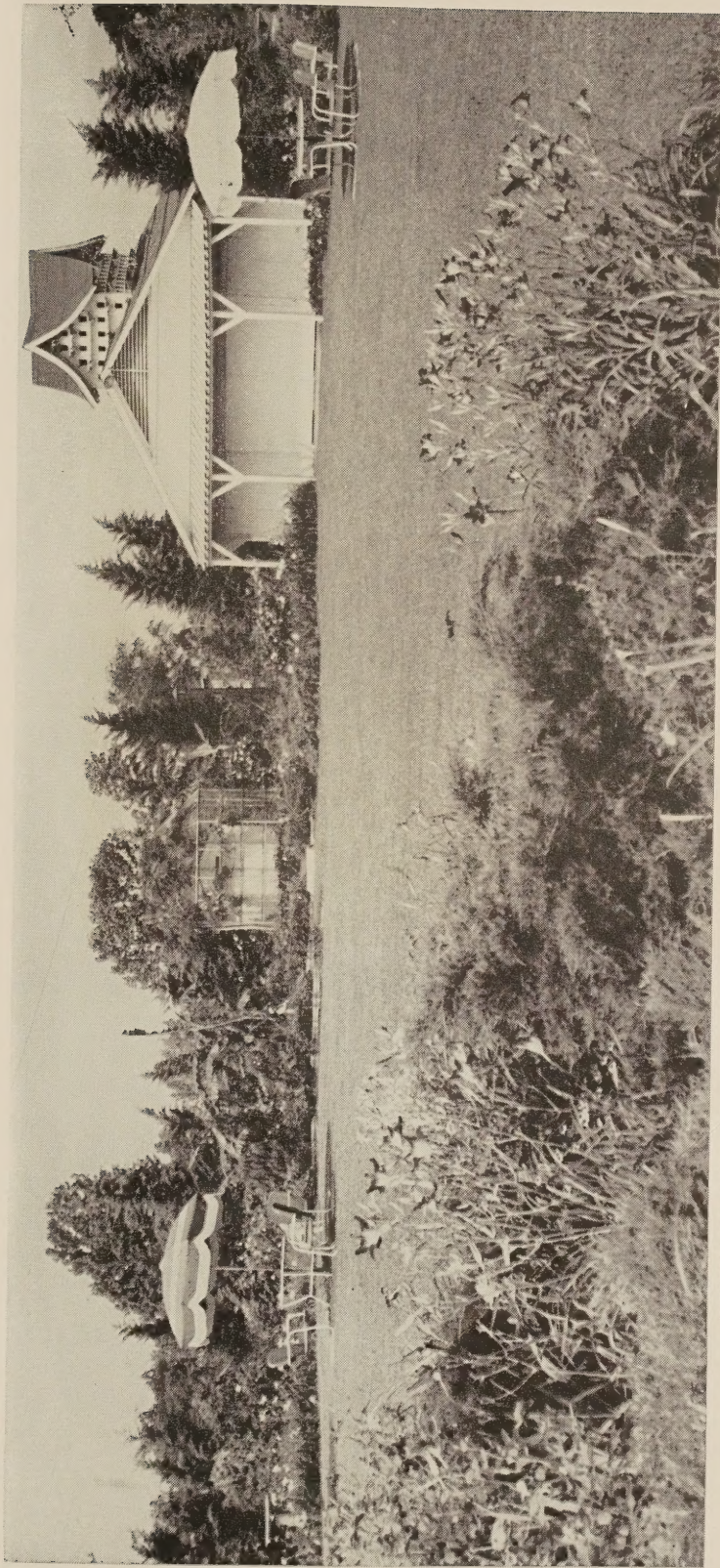
Sincerely yours,
HERR ENGELBERG
Kassel, Marstaeller Platz
Postfach 903, Germany

Dear Sir:

July 6, 1954

I want you to know that the daylilies I ordered last spring are beautiful, vigorous, blooming plants. I have never seen such an assortment of colors. Everyone admires them and asks where they came from. Thank you for such wonderful stock.

MRS. JAMES H. KEEGAN
Imperial St.
Lanesboro, Mass.



MORE BLOOM IN SUMMER WHEN WE NEED IT MOST, AND WITH LITTLE CARE

A Complete Daylily Garden for \$5.95

12 Varieties — Every One Different

Would you like a brand-new selection of Daylilies—twelve brand-new plants, every one a different variety, in a different color, for a price lower than you would be asked to pay for an ordinary perennial? Here we offer some Russell creations at a price no one else has been able to duplicate for such fine sorts. We have selected some of the outstanding varieties from our field of over thirty acres to make up this Complete Daylily Garden.

3 Lemons and Gold—each a different variety
3 Reds and Wines—each a different variety

This collection will cover just about the entire season's bloom. The different varieties bloom at different times, giving you about five months of bloom when the plants are established. Remember, these are hardy plants that, once set out, regardless of where you live in America, will remain a permanent picture in your garden. These varieties will come to you unnamed but all labeled as to color.

3 Pastels (Rose, etc.)—each a different variety
3 Bicolor Combinations—each a different variety

All 12 Postpaid for Only \$5.95



Tiny June Olcott (New Freesia Type), compared with giant bloom

POSTMASTER: If addressee has moved, advise new address on Form 3547 and amount of forwarding postage needed.

RUSSELL GARDENS
Spring, Texas

RETURN POSTAGE
GUARANTEED

Sec. 34.66, P. L. & R.

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SPRING, TEXAS
Permit No. 1

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